



# Nielsen Citrus Products, Inc.

Specializing in Quality Citrus Products Since 1953

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Attn: Arthur Neal-Director  
Program Administration, NPO  
Docket Number TM-0407  
National.list@usda.gov  
Washington, D.C.  
Via Fax 202-205-7808

Re: USDA Organic National list.

Aug. 06, 2005

Dear Mr. Neal,

We are California and Arizona lemon growers and have been farming some of this acreage organically.

The new proposal of banning ethylene gas would have a sever impact on being able to bring fruit to the organic market place. Ethylene gas is used in the packing house to bring color to green lemons that are harvested in a time period when fruit is not of yellow color.

This ruling against the use of ethylene gas on organic fruit would cause a serious supply disruption to the organic fruit market and organic consumers.

I was informed by our organic certifying agency, QAI that the European Union allows the use of ethylene gas for the de-greening of sub-tropical fruit. Would this not indicate that the U.S. organic lemon industry should also be allowed to use ethylene gas as well?

We strongly urge the USDA not to ban the use of ethylene gas for organic lemon de-greening.

Please feel free to contact me for any additional information.

Sincerely,

Chris L. Nielsen-President